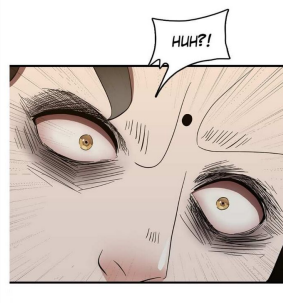


THE BEGINNING AFTER THE END

STORY BY TURTLEME

ART BY FUYUKI23

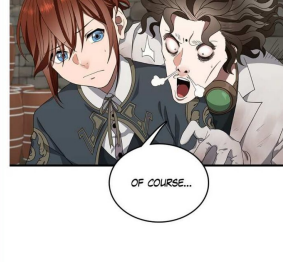
PRESENTED BY
TAPAS MEDIA

QUALITY CONTROL BY
KISAI ENTERTAINMENT

MAIN ASSISTANTS/ALKALENZ
STORYBOARD ASSISTANT/PUTRI
COLORING ASSISTANTS/CHIBONIE & YUEJI
LINING ASSISTANT/MIKAGE

PROJECT MANAGER
SERA SWATI

EDITORS
GABRIELLE LUU & AKY



I'VE LEFT OUT SOME KEY DETAILS, WHICH I WILL BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO PROVIDE...

ONCE OUR NEGOTIATIONS ARE OVER.

TWITCH

YOU'RE NOT A NORMAL LITTLE BOOGER, ARE YOU?

NO MATTER.

SNAP

CLEAR

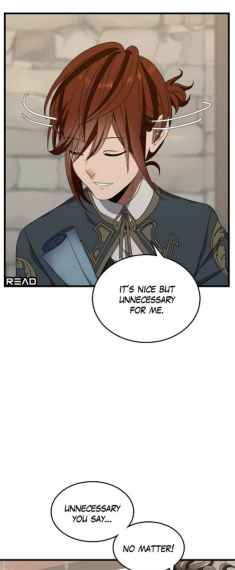
I'M SURE EVEN THE THINGS ROLLING AROUND ON THE GROUND HERE WILL BE ABLE TO AMAZE YOU.

FEAST YOUR DEWY BLUE EYES ON THIS!

THAT'S AN IRONIZE DIAMOND!

HMMM

VINCENT TELLS ME YOU'RE A BUDDING MAGE.
THIS IS ONE OF THE MOST VALUABLE GEMS ON THIS CONTINENT, AND CAN STORE FIVE TIMES ITS SIZE IN MANA.
I DON'T THINK BUDDING IS QUITE THE WORD I USED...


IT'S NICE BUT UNNECESSARY FOR ME.

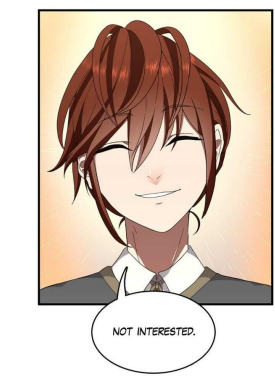
UNNECESSARY YOU SAY...
NO MATTER!

HIMES, BRING OVER ALL THE ITEMS ON THE MIDDLE SHELF OF ROW C.

DDD
DDDD
AHAHAH!

FWP
I HAVEN'T SHOWN THIS TO ANYONE YET BUT I'LL MAKE AN EXCEPTION FOR YOU.

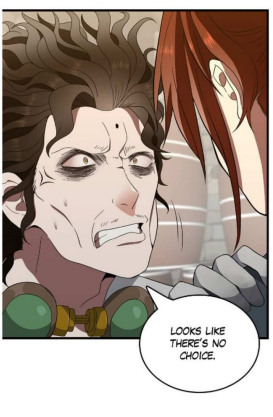
TA-DA!!
THIS MIRROR IS CAPABLE OF DEFLECTING UP TO FIVE--


NOT INTERESTED.

SHWOOP

WHAT ABOUT THIS?
NO.
YOU CAN'T SAY NO TO THIS!
NOPE.
FINE, I'M SURE ABOUT THIS ONE!
MEH...
TO BE ABLE TO HOLD HIS OWN AGAINST THE INFAMOUS GIDEON... AS EXPECTED OF ARTHUR.
BUT...
TAKE MY STUUFFFF!!

...WHAT THE HELL IS HAPPENING IN FRONT OF ME.
MASTER!!

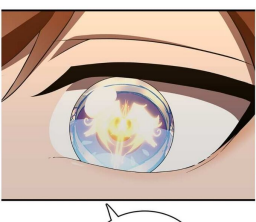

LOOKS LIKE THERE'S NO CHOICE.

HIMES, BRING ME THE PENDANTS.
BUT MASTER, THOSE WERE MADE FOR--
I KNOW! JUST. BRING. THEM!
Y-YES MASTER!

CLICK
CLICK

I HAD SOME OF THE BEST DESIGNERS WORK ON THE AESTHETICS SO THEY WOULD BE, ER... 'SUITABLE' FOR THE ROYAL FAMILY.

READ

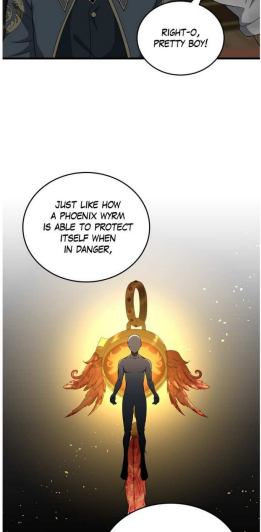


THIS IS MADE FROM A PHOENIX WYRM...

DAMN RIGHT IT IS!
WHOO'S
WAIT, HOW DID YOU KNOW?!

WHAT ARE PHOENIX WYRMS?

THEY'RE A RACE OF S-CLASS MANA BEASTS ABOUT AS RARE AS DRAGONS THEMSELVES
THAT ARE MORE KNOWN FOR THEIR UNIQUE ABILITY TO PRESERVE THEIR OWN LIVES.


I'M GUESSING YOU'VE MANAGED TO SOMEHOW STORE THAT ABILITY INTO THE PENDANT?
RIGHT-O, PRETTY BOY!

JUST LIKE HOW A PHOENIX WYRM IS ABLE TO PROTECT ITSELF WHEN IN DANGER,
A PROTECTIVE SHELL WILL BE CONJURED AROUND THE WEARER OF THIS LITTLE ARTIFACT.
AND THAT'S NOT EVEN THE BEST PART.
IF THE COCOON SHIELDING THE USER BREAKS,
THE MANA STORED IN THE PENDANT WILL BE CONSUMED, AND IT'LL TRANSPORT THE USER TO THE SAFEST LOCATION THEY KNOW.
JUST AS A PHOENIX WYRM WOULD.

HOW MANY TIMES CAN SOMEONE USE THE EFFECTS OF THIS PENDANT?

HONESTLY, KID, IT'S HARD TO SAY.
I ALREADY WASTED FIVE PHOENIX WYRM BEAST CORES, WHICH ARE EACH WORTH MORE THAN ANY OTHER S-CLASS CORE.

I HYPOTHESIZE THAT THEY'LL BE GOOD FOR...

THIS MANY USES.

HMMM

THIS WOULD BE SOMETHING THAT ELLIE AND MOTHER MIGHT...

WAIT.

YOU SAID EARLIER THAT THESE WERE FOR THE ROYAL FAMILY?

YEAH, THE ROYAL FAMILY WAS THE ONE THAT DONATED THE CORES.

BUT THAT'S NOT IMPORTANT...

WHAT I'M MORE CURIOUS ABOUT IS HOW YOU CAME UP WITH SUCH AN IDEA AND WHY YOU'RE REVEALING IT HERE AND NOW.

WHAT'S YOUR AGENDA?

I JUST WANT TO GET MY LITTLE SISTER A GOOD BIRTHDAY GIFT.

LIAR!!

BESIDES,
I DON'T PLAN ON REVEALING ANYTHING WITHOUT KNOWING EXACTLY WHAT YOU'LL BE USING IT FOR.

IS THAT NECESSARY?

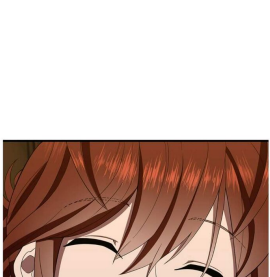
YOU'LL FIND OUT DURING THE ANNOUNCEMENT LATER TODAY.

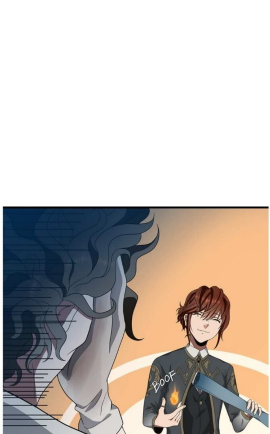
I'M CERTAIN A DISTINGUISHED CHARACTER SUCH AS YOURSELF WOULD BE MORE INFORMATIONAL THAN A HIGHLY-FILTERED SPEECH MEANT FOR THE MASSES.

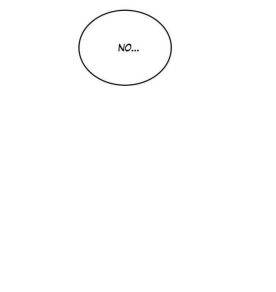
FINE, FINE.
THEN IF I TELL YOU EVERYTHING I KNOW, WILL YOU NOT NEED THE PENDANTS?

I'M NOT THAT NICE, MR. GIDEON.

THEN... INSTEAD OF BOTH, JUST ONE...?




Boof



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